

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MEETING OF APRIL 7, 1925

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M. on April 7, 1925, in the American Museum of Natural History, President Frank E. Lutz in the chair, with twenty-seven members and six visitors present.

The Program Committee reported Dr. W. D. Leonard as the speaker on April 21.

Mr. Nicolay announced an outing to Orangeburg on Sunday, April 19.

Dr. Eugene K. Schwarz, 42 West 69th St., New York City, was elected a member.

A letter from H. S. Barber, of Washington, commending the obituary of Col. Casey in *Entomological News*, was read. It was also announced that the Casey collection had been moved to the U. S. National Museum.

Dr. Lutz told of Mr. Woodruff being ill with fever in the West Indian Island Tortola, where only five white men reside.

Dr. Felt spoke on "Winds and Insect Distribution with special reference to the Gypsy Moth in New York State." Believing that small caterpillars might be spread by air currents, he had, during 1923 and 1924, caused 709 balloons to be liberated; of these about 6 per cent. were recovered demonstrating easterly air currents, with an average velocity of about seventeen miles an hour. In extreme cases a velocity of 100 miles an hour was recorded and several balloons reached Nova Scotia, one even South Londonderry, Newfoundland, 775 miles away. The recorded cases of distant distribution, Monarch butterfly, Cotton Moth, Corn Ear Worm, Mexican Bean Beetle, Vanessa butterflies, Dragon flies, etc., were next considered and shown to be consistent with a theory of distribution by air currents. Further corroborative evidence was found in insects taken at sea, on the great lakes, in the altitude of 1,000 feet reached by spores, etc., of his general conclusion that air currents constitute an important factor in insect distribution.

Dr. Lutz spoke of his finding a Euglossid bee, a native of the American tropics, in his garden at Ramsey, N. J., and of the distribution of volcanic ash from Krakatau as additional evidence. In reference, however, to the migrations of the Monarch butterfly he considered further study advisable and told of the plans made at the museum for that purpose.

Mr. Davis spoke of his and other repeated observations of the Monarch butterfly going in a southerly direction every fall irrespective of wind; of the Cicadas that really like to stay at home, though they are good fliers; and of the Geometrid moth *Catenaria* plastered all over the fences. Such diverse examples showed in his opinion the need of considering the "inclination of the critter."

Messrs. Angell, Olsen, Weiss, Bird, Lawler and Lemmer joined in the discussion which recalled other instances of distribution by air and ocean currents.

Mr. Watson exhibited a second donation by Mr. Frank Johnson of rare and remarkably handsome tropical butterflies, including: *Papilio priamus* Lydius Felder, from Halmahera; *Papilio b. Brookiana* Wallace, from Borneo; *Prepona omphale omphale* Hubner, from Amazon; *Agrias amydon* Hewitson, from Colombia; *Morpho aurora aureola* Fruhstorfer, from Peru; *Morpho hecuba phanodemus* Hewitson, from Upper Amazon; *Tropea truncatipennis* Sonthonnax, from Mexico.

Mr. Nicolay read a newspaper article on *Scaphinotus viduus* found by Miss Anita A. Neu at Hemlock Falls.

Mr. Mutchler read a letter from Dr. Walther Horn, Berlin, telling of the reduction of his staff to one girl, and of his forthcoming list of entomological collections.

Mr. Bird exhibited four species of *Papaiema* moths collected by Mr. Lemmer.

#### MEETING OF APRIL 21, 1925

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M. in the American Museum of Natural History on April 21, 1925, Dr. Frank E. Lutz, the president, in the chair, with twenty-four members and six visitors present.

Mr. Nicolay for the Outing Committee reported that rain had prevented the Orangeburg trip; that it would be repeated in two weeks and be followed by trips to Greenwood Lake and Wyandanch.

Mr. Weiss for the Program Committee reported papers by Messrs. Bell, Watson and Janson for May 5 and by Messrs. Brown and Davis for May 19.

Mr. Albert Hartzell, Yonkers, N. Y., was elected a member.

Dr. Leonard spoke of "The Spanish Grape Embargo on Account of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly" with illustrations by lantern slides. He said that the embargo resulted from the discovery of a slight infestation, about 2 per cent., in so-called "Malaga" grapes shipped in cork dust from Almeria in Spain, usually between November 1 and January 1. As it was a hardship to growers and importers he had gone to Spain to study the situation and plan, in conjunction with Spanish agricultural authorities, an amelioration of the conditions that might justify lifting the embargo. He found the grapes themselves practically free of infestation but the figs, which were commonly grown on the edge of the vineyards, the actual cause of the trouble. An effort was made to have the growers clean up, which in a few cases was quite successful but as a general rule was not. The embargo was therefore continued in force, leading to complications in renewing the trade treaty with Spain. Prohibition affected Spanish exports to the United States of wine and cork; embargo affected their exports of grapes; little was left for them but a feeling of severe treatment.

Dr. Leonard showed many views of the region he had visited, its mountains and terraced vineyards. The varieties grown and methods of cross fertilization, spraying and marketing were also shown with a few views of the Spanish onion industry. The pictures ended with several devoted to the bull fights and Dr. Leonard finally in bull fighter's costume photographed by Dr. W. M. Mann.

Dr. Leonard's remarks were discussed by Dr. Shaw of the Federal Horticultural Board, Mr. Seymour of the Florists' Exchange, Dr. Lutz, and other members.

#### MEETING OF MAY 5, 1925

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M., on May 5, 1925, in the American Museum of Natural History, President Frank E. Lutz in the chair, with twenty-four members and three visitors present.

Mr. Nicolay announced for the Outing Committee a trip to Greenwood Lake for May 17, and the results in capturing ground beetles including *Elaphrus cicatricosus* on the trip to Montvale.

Dr. Lutz announced the establishment of a Field Station in a tract of 40 acres at Wild Cat Brook in the Ramapo Mts. about one mile south of Southfields and invited the members to camp there May 30-31, conditioned upon their restraining from turning stone, detaching bark or otherwise destroying the natural conditions. Several members signified their intention of accepting the invitation.

Upon a statement of the Second Annual Luncheon of the Riverdale Entomological Club on May 2, which club is composed of boys about 15 years of age, the following resolution was adopted:—

*The New York Entomological Society, thirty-three years old, congratulates the Entomological Club of Riverdale upon its second birthday and sends its best wishes for a long and successful life, with instructions to the secretary to send a copy thereof to the club.*

A letter from Dr. Leonard requesting the endorsement of the society of his request for a grant of \$300 from the New York Academy of Sciences was read. The money was needed for completion of the New York State List and could not be furnished by Cornell University.

Dr. Lutz explained the situation in the Academy Executive Committee, which would make prompt action advisable and a subscription of part of the amount by the Society more effective than a simple endorsement; provided the Society desired to make the endorsement.

The treasurer stated that in view of the loss liable to result in the C. M. & St. Paul matter \$100 would be all that the Society could afford.

After discussion in which Messrs. Sherman, Weiss, Woodruff and Engelhardt took part, on motion by Mr. Leng the society appropriated \$100 provided the balance could be obtained.

Mr. Frank Johnson offered to add \$50, which offer was accepted with thanks.

On motion by Mr. Engelhardt, the Society's delegate to the Academy, Mr. Davis, was instructed to present Dr. Leonard's letter to the Academy Executive Committee informing them that the Society would be prepared to contribute \$150.

Mr. Barber called attention to a proposed Biographical Entomological Dictionary as explained in *Science*, *Entomological News*, etc. C. L. Metcalf, Urbana, Ill., will receive and forward to Prof. Embrik Strand, the publisher, American autobiographies.

Mr. Bell under the title "Remarks on Some Hesperidæ" exhibited *Achalarus casica* from Arizona and pointed out the difference between it and *epigona* and the history of the literature. He also exhibited *Myscelus phoronis*, *amystis* and *orbis* from South America with comments thereon.

Mr. Watson exhibited the following rare and beautiful butterflies from tropical America, given to the American Museum by Mr. Frank Johnson, and all new to that collection, viz.: *Metosamia montezuma*, *Morpho sulkowskii*, *Dynastor napoleon*, *Morpho anaxibia*, *Morpho rhetenor helena* and *eusebes*, *Morpho cypris cyanites*. *Telea polyphemus* from New York was added to the exhibit to show the differences exhibited by *montezuma*.

Mr. Janson spoke on "Adventures of an artist with Tingididæ and certain Coleoptera" in which he dwelt upon the resemblances the artist saw between insects and other objects, the lace bug suggesting Elizabethian costume, the roughly sculptured Scolytid the wild scenery of the Garden of the Gods in Colorado, etc. He exhibited several of the drawings he had made for Dr. Blackman at Syracuse University and for other authors in confirmation of this. He also described some interesting habits of the insects he had observed while making such drawings, particularly the Scolytid male response to any suggestions of danger by partial opening of elytra to better conceal the burrow entrance and the dancing upon arrival at the hive of the field bee laden with a rich store of nectar. In this connection he referred to Hart's paper in the *Journal of Economic Entomology*. Mr. Janson closed his remarks with quotations from Walt Whitman on the aesthetic view of natural objects.

Mr. Engelhardt commented on the way primitive art seemed to draw its inspiration from natural objects and suggested that designers might profit by a closer study of our native insects.